



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLN. OF: WITHERS et al.  
SERIAL NO.: 10/828,641  
FILED: April 21, 2004  
FOR: THERMAL AND ELECTROCHEMICAL PROCESS FOR METAL...  
GROUP: 1742 Confirmation No. 5332  
DOCKET: MER 03.01

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-entitled matter, Applicants hereby proffer U.S. Patent Office Form PTO-1449, including a copy and English Translation of the reference listed therein. Also enclosed is an English language CN1376813A which was cited as D4 in the Search Report of the corresponding PCT application which is already of record. The claims in the present application are believed to be patentably distinguished over these references.

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being made pursuant to the duty of disclosure imposed by law and formulated in 37 CFR 1.56(A). No representation is made that the information thus disclosed in fact constitutes prior art or that it is the closest prior art, inasmuch as 37 CFR 1.56(A) relies on a materiality concept which depends on subjectivity.

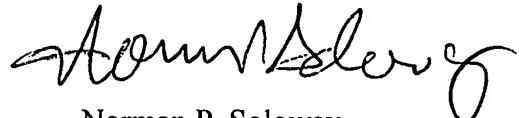
The enclosed Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to issuance of the first action on the merits. Therefore, we believe there are no fees involved with this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. In the event there are any fee

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deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account No. 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,



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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 15, 2006 at Tucson, Arizona.

By: 

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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">JUN 19 2006</p> <p style="text-align: center;">APR 37</p>				Docket Number (Optional) <b>MER 03.01</b>		Application Number <b>10/828,641</b>	
				Applicant(s) <b>WITHERS et al.</b>			
				Filing Date <b>April 21, 2004</b>		Group Art Unit <b>1742</b>	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
<b>U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS</b>							
*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation
		CN 1712571	12.28.05	CHINA (w/translation)	C25C	3/28	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
		CN1376813A	10.30.02	CHINA (translation only)	C25C	3/36	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS</b> <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			
<p><b>EXAMINER:</b> Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</p>							